

affairs of other nations. These people are not seen as men and women of action and world statesmen when they urge that we do more and more in other countries.

I wish more of our leaders would heed the advice of President Kennedy who said in 1962: "We must face that fact that the United States is neither omnipotent nor omniscient—that we are only six percent [now four percent] of the world's population—that we cannot impose our will upon the other 94 percent of mankind—that we cannot right every wrong or reverse each adversity—and that therefore there cannot be an American solution to every world problem."

There is nothing conservative about the U.S. policy in Iraq.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). The Chair reminds Members that remarks in debate may not include quotations of Senators except as specified in clause 1(b)(2)(B) of rule XVII.

ILL-CONCEIVED WAR IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week in a marathon time frame of probably about 48 hours this House made one of the most important decisions that we will ever have to make and that is the expenditure of \$87 billion based on the premise of a continuing war in Iraq.

When I debated the question on the floor of the House, I reminded my colleagues that this was a war that was not declared under the Constitution, and it was a war that had moved from one so-called premise to the next. When the President presented it to us, he suggested that we were about to be under imminent attack, and we were about to be attacked by the existence of weapons of mass destruction.

As time went on, we heard the words "liberating Iraq," then we heard the "war against terrorism," but we have never been able to determine the factuality or the truth of the issue of whether or not this Nation was about to be imminently attacked that would warrant a preemptive strike against another nation.

But even so, our young men and women went on the frontlines of Iraq and offered themselves as the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Therefore, none of us in our support for those troops, will waver away from standing shoulder to shoulder with their families and with their needs. I know that my colleagues will be discussing accusations by Members on the other side of the aisle with respect to a so-called litmus test. They have questioned Members' patriotism because they have had a vehement opposition to an ill-conceived war.

My perspective of that is we live in a democracy and opposition is what the

Federalist Papers were all about. I will continue my vehement opposition to this war, but my enthusiastic and unwavering support of the troops. I would raise the question to the majority leader as to why any such comment should even be appropriate in this democracy and in this body.

Mr. Speaker, I bring to the attention of those who call themselves patriotic by sending troops into war the number of young men and women who have committed suicide in Iraq since May 11. We have had 11. That represents a number of 34. If we had an annualized rate, it would mean 34 per 100,000 service people. What we have found is since the start of the war and after the war, after major combat operations have ended, since then, troops have had to cope with increasing paramilitary attacks with less opportunity to defend themselves.

When I met with troops from Iraq, they indicated that they are constantly going over landmines or IEDs, I believe they are called, going over the same pathways and having their tankers blow up. They do not have the same jobs. They are using carpenters and painters and others to be part of the MPs and knock down doors. It is an unusual Army suicide rate, and when I brought this to the attention of my colleagues in the debate, no one seemed to be concerned. The usual Army rate of suicide is 10 to 13 per 100,000. What we have in Iraq is like 34 out of a 100,000. I would think that Members would be concerned.

In Iraq and Afghanistan, we have hand-to-hand combat going on. We have, basically, wars going on on two fronts, and we have our troops in hand-to-hand combat and they need additional resources.

When I met with some of the leadership from the Arab region, they suggested they would welcome the opportunity for an Arab-U.S. summit to truly see how we could bring peace to the region in Iraq, and I would like to see the administration take them up on that offer to sit down and talk with our Arab leaders about how we can bring peace to Iraq, not with an aftermath, makeshift program that none of us understand, with a number of sniper shootings going on, and IEDs killing our young people.

Mr. Speaker, I would finally say this idea of privatization should be studied because the random privatization of Arabic countries should not be willy-nilly, and gifts to those that would think that this would be a gift, but we need to expand the opportunity to small and minority and women-owned businesses.

As I close, we are going to see a CR come to the floor of the House, and I do not know if we are going to see a tax cut for those with children or whether or not we are ever going to see a guaranteed prescription drug benefit, but we will have a continuing resolution that Republicans want to promote.

HONORING POPE JOHN PAUL II

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, earlier today the House voted on H. Res. 400 acknowledging Pope John Paul II's 25th year as the pontiff.

I wanted to take a few minutes to reflect on his remarkable life that so many can draw tremendous strength from in a world that often challenges our strength.

Some who see him now see this older man, stooped and bowed by age, trembling with his hands, now leaning on his crosier when he can stand for support, and what a different view that is from the young Karol Wojtyla who had such strength and vibrancy of character. And yet despite his age, it is remarkable how he continues to be such an example for all the world. Even though there are so many challenges around, his strength continues to shine through in a changing world.

I thought it was worth reflecting on what it is about the Holy Father that has given him his strength that adds particular interest to our resolution today in commemorating such an incredible life.

Some have said that to understand this Pope you need to go back to his roots in Poland. He was born on May 18, 1920. From early on in life, suffering was very much a part of him. Poland itself is a nation that has seen itself go from perhaps one of the leaders in medieval days to a country divided up and essentially had so many of its citizens turned into near slaves in this century and the last. Many Polish citizens continue to reflect upon their own history as a source of strength, and indeed it is with the Pope.

His father was a devout and upright man, a decorated World War I officer. His mother, apparently of delicate health, would suffer much on her own, and had a young daughter who died before Karol was born. His own mother died when he was eight, and his father when he was a young man. And his brother died, too. He said at one point, "By the time I was 20, I had already lost all the people I loved, even those who I might have loved, like my older sister, who died 6 years before I was born."

His suffering gave him incredible meaning in his life. As a young man, he and his father stood in line once with other refugees of World War II, and they were sprayed with machine gun fire from aircraft. He was arrested at age 21, narrowly escaping being sent to Auschwitz. He lay in the basement of his house praying with his arms outstretched in the shape of a cross while Nazi officers went through the house. He was hit by a speeding truck during the war, and probably would have died if caring citizens did not take care of him.

It was the problems he had with World War II which gave him strength